

WEEKLY FLU REPORT

Epidemiology Program—Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

2016 CDC Week 49

This report includes...

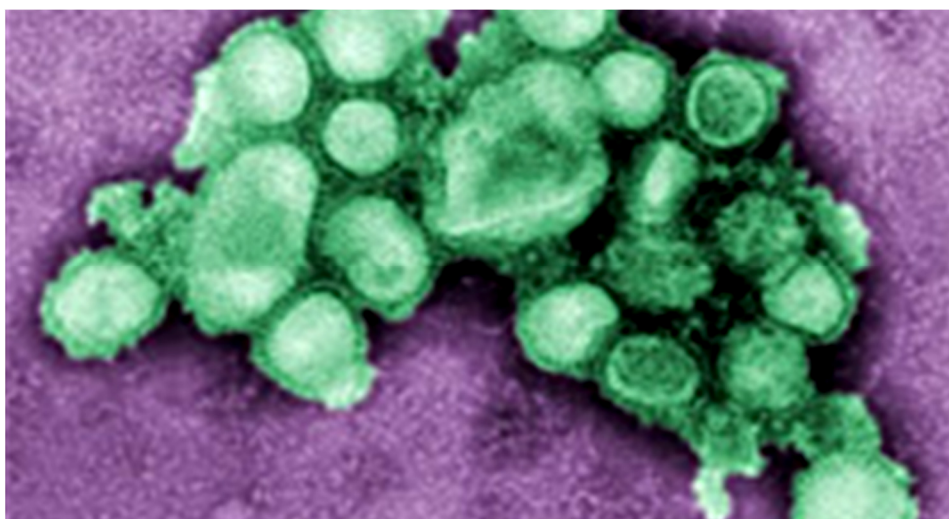
- ⇒ This report includes information on influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in Harris County as well as on the state and national level.
- ⇒ Absenteeism data are voluntarily reported from school nurses located at area public schools.

Important Notes:

- ⇒ Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as an illness including a fever (temperature of at least 100°F) with a cough OR a sore throat, without another known cause (such as strep throat).
- ⇒ Influenza/ILI is reported on a voluntary basis and is not a mandatory notifiable condition.
- ⇒ Similarly, rapid influenza test results are also reported on a voluntary basis.
- ⇒ Therefore, data presented in this report indicate trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.
- ⇒ The 2016-2017 influenza season is from October 2, 2016—May 20, 2017.

Public Health is “what we as a society do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy”

- The Future of the Public's Health in the 21st Century, Institutes of Medicine, 2003

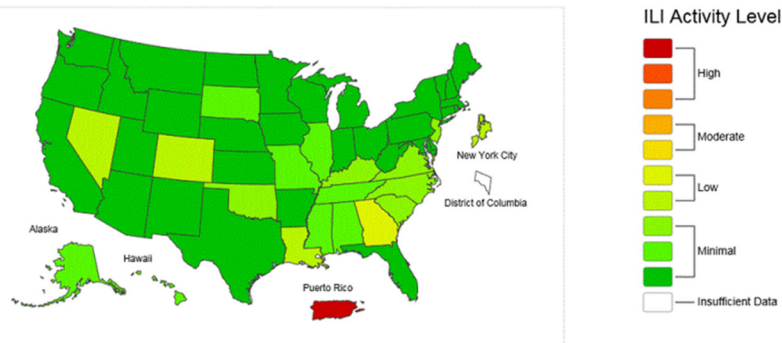


Negative stain EM image of the 2009 H1N1 influenza A/CA/4/09
Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/media/subtopic/library/diseases.htm>
Photo Credit: C. S. Goldsmith and A. Balish, CDC

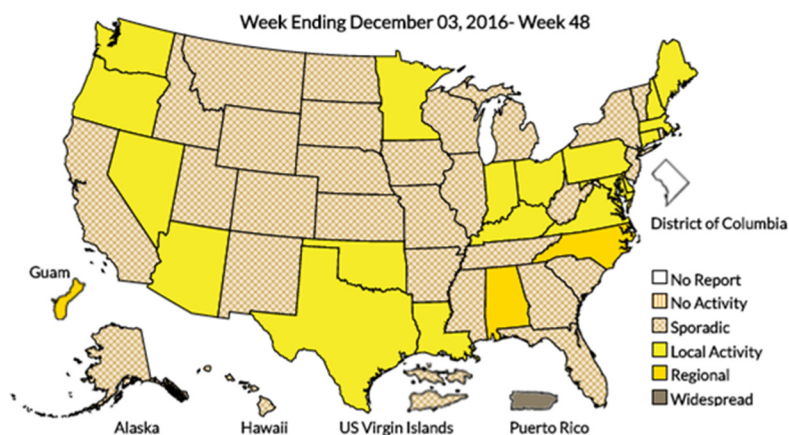
In This Issue

- National and State Influenza Activity
- Harris County School Absenteeism
- Texas Influenza Lab Testing Summary

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet
2016-17 Influenza Season Week 48 ending Dec 03, 2016



A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists*



Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>

Nationally

Activity levels range from minimal, which would correspond to ILI activity from outpatient clinics being below, or only slightly above, the average, to high, which would correspond to ILI activity from outpatient clinics being much higher than average.. In Texas, activity increased slightly, but remained low (minimal level) for CDC week 48 (Nov 27th to Dec 3rd, 2016).

Statewide

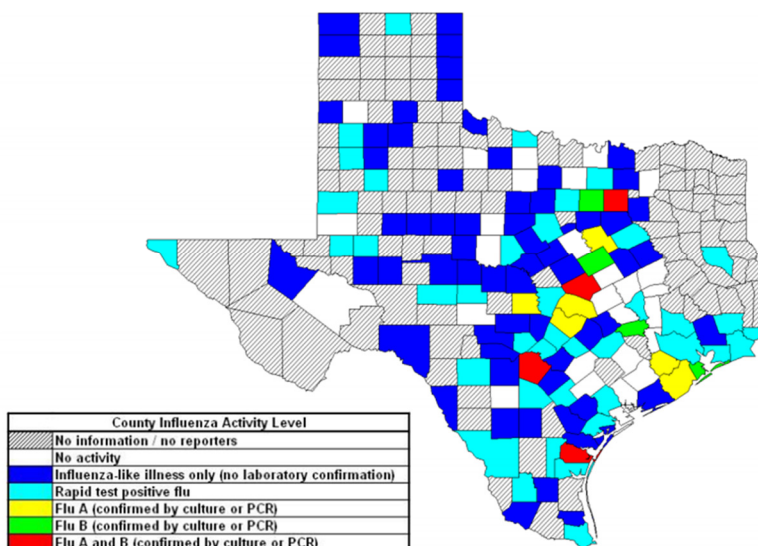
No variant influenza viruses have been identified in Texas during this flu season.

Locally

There have been no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported in Harris County (excluding the City of Houston) during this flu season.

Statewide Influenza Activity Map

Figure 5: Texas Map Displaying the Highest Level of Influenza or ILI Activity Reported by County for the Week Ending Dec. 3, 2016 (MMWR Week 48)



Source: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2016/>

School Reporting

Influenza/ILI reporting is voluntary as it is not a mandatory notifiable condition. Therefore, this report indicates trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.

Daily absenteeism and student/staff ILI numbers are reported from schools in the 18 Harris County Independent School Districts (ISDs). Schools were asked to begin reporting ILI from the beginning of the school year; however, reporting participation generally increases as occurrence of ILI increases.

School holidays:

* Week 47/48

(Thanksgiving)

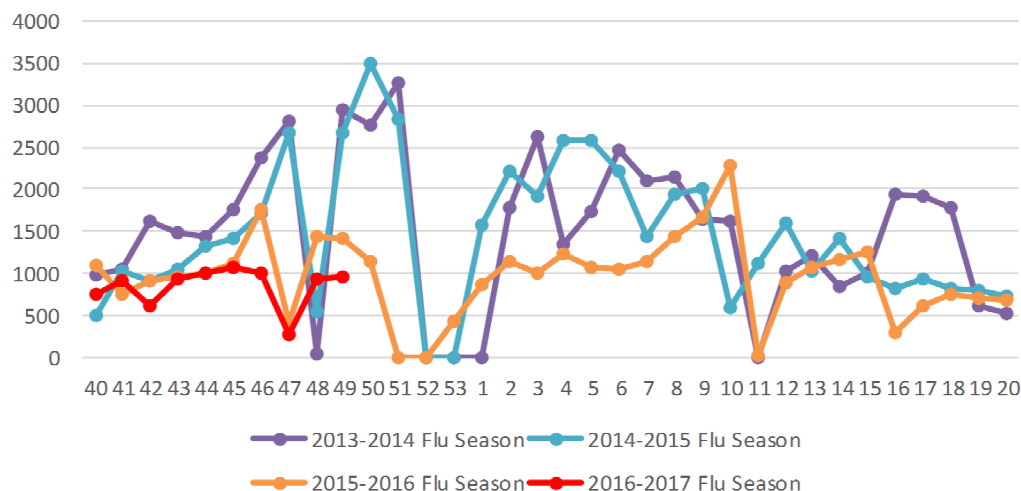
* Week 52-Week 1

(Winter Break)

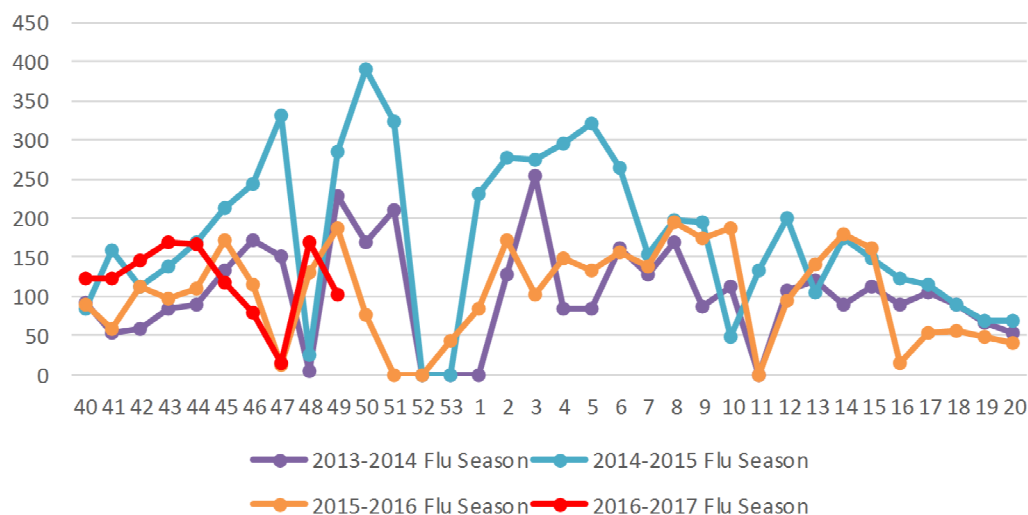
* Week 10/11

(Spring Break)

Student Absenteeism Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by CDC Week
2016-2017 Influenza Season



Staff Absenteeism Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by CDC Week
2016-2017 Influenza Season



School Absenteeism Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by CDC Week
2016-2017 Influenza Season

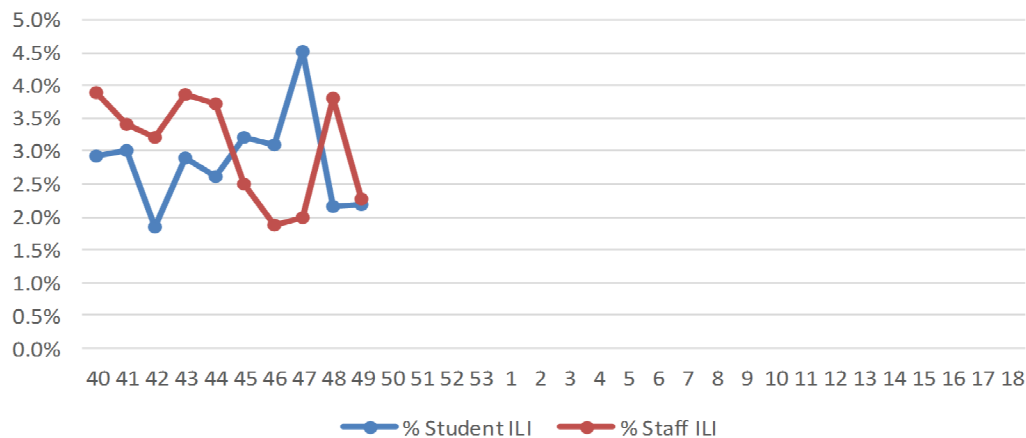
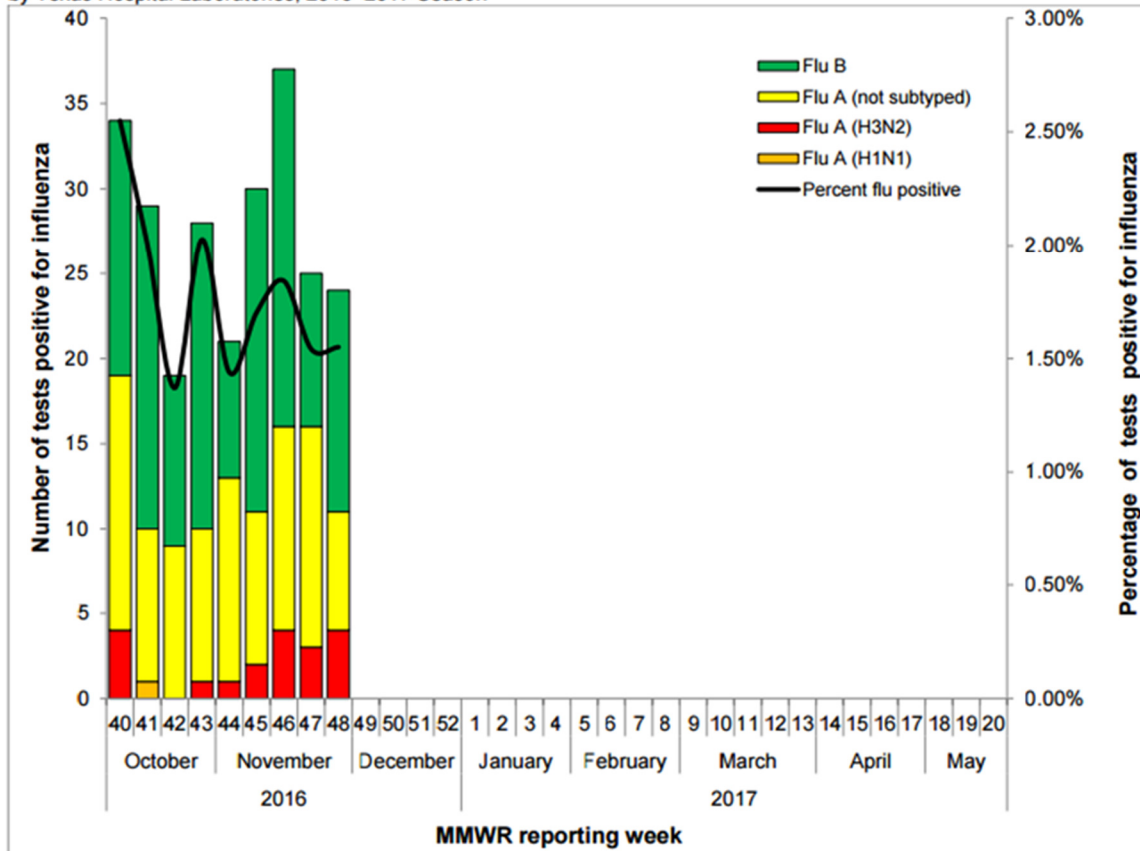


Figure 1: Number and Percentage of Tests (Antigen, Culture, PCR) Positive for Influenza by Type and Subtype Reported by Texas Hospital Laboratories, 2016–2017 Season



Source: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2016/>

Additional Information

Harris County Public Health

<http://publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/>

Texas Department of State Health Services

Influenza Surveillance: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FluView Weekly Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>

Information for Schools/Childcare Providers: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/index.htm>

World Health Organization

Influenza Surveillance: <http://www.who.int/topics/influenza/en/>

Contact Us

HCPH

Epidemiology Department
2223 West Loop South
Houston, TX 77027

Phone: (713) 439-6000

Fax: (713) 439-6306

Visit us on the web at <http://publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/>

Follow us on Twitter:

@HCPHTX

Like us on Facebook:

Harris County Public Health

Healthy People, Healthy Communities
...a Healthy Harris County